

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

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Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A detection material for initial dental caries comprising ~~0.001 to 5%~~ from 0.04 to 0.3% by weight of at least one dye selected from the group consisting of fluorescein sodium, fluorescein potassium, dibromofluorescein sodium, and dibromofluorescein potassium compound in a solvent.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The detection material for initial dental caries as claimed in claim 1, wherein the solvent is at least one member selected from the group consisting of water, ethanol, glycerin, isobutyl alcohol, ethylene glycol, diethylene glycol, triethylene glycol, acetone, and propylene glycol, ~~or a mixed solution of two or more of these members.~~

Claim 3 (New): The detection material for initial dental caries as claimed in claim 1, wherein the solvent is at least one member selected from the group consisting of water, ethanol, n-propanol, 2-butyl alcohol, isobutyl alcohol, n-amyl alcohol, isoamylalcohol, ethylene glycol, 2-methoxyethanol, diethylene glycol, triethylene glycol, tetraethylene glycol, polyethylene Glycol, propylene glycol, dipropylene glycol, polypropylene glycol, trimethylene glycol, 1,2-butanediol, 1,3-butanediol, 2,3-butanediol, 1,4-butanediol, 1,5-pentanediol, ethylene glycol monomethyl ether, ethylene glycol monomethyl ether acetate, ethylene glycol monoethyl ether, ethylene glycol diethyl ether, ethylene glycol monoethylether acetate, ethylene glycol isopropyl ether, ethylene glycol monobutyl ether, ethylene glycol dibutyl ether, ethylene glycol monoacetate, ethylene glycol diacetate, diethylene glycol monomethylether, diethylene glycol monoethyl ether, diethylene glycol

monoethyl ether acetate, diethylene glycol monobutyl ether, diethylene glycol monoethylether acetate, diethylene glycol dimethylether, diethylene glycol methylethyl ether, diethylene glycol diethyl ether, diethylene glycol acetate, triethylene glycol monomethyl ether, triethylene glycol monoethyl ether, propylene glycol monomethylether, propylene glycol monoethylether, dipropylene glycol monomethyl ether, dipropylene glycol monoethyl ether, tripropylene glycol monomethyl ether, glycerin, tetrahydrofuran, dimethylformamide, dioxane, acetone, and dimethoxyethane.

Claim 4 (New): The detection material for initial dental caries as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a thickener.

Claim 5 (New): The detection material for initial dental caries as claimed in claim 4, wherein the thickener is at least one member selected from the group consisting of a synthetic additive, natural thickener, and inorganic thickener.

Claim 6 (New): The detection material for initial dental caries as claimed in claim 4, wherein the thickener is at least one member selected from the group consisting of sodium alginate, propylene glycol alginate, sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, calcium carboxymethyl cellulose, sodium carboxymethyl starch, sodium starch phosphate, sodium polyacrylate, methyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, and polyvinylpyrrolidone.

Claim 7 (New): The detection material for initial dental caries as claimed in claim 4, wherein the thickener is at least one member selected from the group consisting of cyamopsis gum, Carob bean gum, Tara gum, Tamarind seed gum, gum arabic, tragacanth

gum, Karaya gum, alginic acid, carrageenan, xanthan gum, gellan gum, curdlan, chitin, chitosan, and chitosamine.

Claim 8 (New): The detection material for initial dental caries as claimed in claim 4, wherein the thickener is at least one member selected from the group consisting of calcium carbonate, calcium silicate, silica powder, amorphous hydrous silicate, and hydrophobic silica.

Claim 9 (New): The detection material for initial dental caries as claimed in claim 4, wherein the thickener is present in an amount ranging from 0.5 to 30 % by weight.

Claim 10 (New): The detection material for initial dental caries as claimed in claim 4, wherein the thickener is present in an amount ranging from 0.5 to 4 % by weight.

Claim 11 (New): The detection material for initial dental caries as claimed in claim 4, wherein the thickener is present in an amount ranging from 10 to 30% by weight.

Claim 12 (New): The detection material for initial dental caries as claimed in claim 1, wherein the detection material has a viscosity of from 50 to 2,000 mPa•s at 25 °C.

Claim 13 (New): The detection material for initial dental caries as claimed in claim 1, wherein the dye is present in an amount of from 0.04 to 0.09% by weight.

Claim 14 (New): The detection material for initial dental caries as claimed in claim 1, wherein the dye is present in an amount of from 0.09 to 0.3% by weight.

Claim 15 (New): A method of making the material according to Claim 1, comprising mixing the dye with the solvent.

Claim 16 (New): The method according to claim 15, wherein the solvent is at least one member selected from the group consisting of water, ethanol, glycerin, isobutyl alcohol, ethylene glycol, diethylene glycol, triethylene glycol, acetone, and propylene glycol.

Claim 17 (New): The method according to claim 15, wherein the solvent is at least one member selected from the group consisting of water, ethanol, n-propanol, 2-butyl alcohol, isobutyl alcohol, n-amyl alcohol, isoamylalcohol, ethylene glycol, 2-methoxyethanol, diethylene glycol, triethylene glycol, tetraethylene glycol, polyethylene Glycol, propylene glycol, dipropylene glycol, polypropylene glycol, trimethylene glycol, 1,2-butanediol, 1,3-butanediol, 2,3-butanediol, 1,4-butanediol, 1,5-pentanediol, ethylene glycol monomethyl ether, ethylene glycol monomethyl ether acetate, ethylene glycol monoethyl ether, ethylene glycol diethyl ether, ethylene glycol monoethylether acetate, ethylene glycol isopropyl ether, ethylene glycol monobutyl ether, ethylene glycol dibutyl ether, ethylene glycol monoacetate, ethylene glycol diacetate, diethylene glycol monomethylether, diethylene glycol monoethyl ether, diethylene glycol monoethyl ether acetate, diethylene glycol monobutyl ether, diethylene glycol monoethylether acetate, diethylene glycol dimethylether, diethylene glycol methylethyl ether, diethylene glycol diethyl ether, diethylene glycol acetate, triethylene glycol monomethyl ether, triethylene glycol monoethyl ether, propylene glycol monomethylether, propylene glycol monoethylether, dipropylene glycol monomethyl ether, dipropylene glycol monoethyl ether, tripropylene glycol monomethyl ether, glycerin, tetrahydrofuran, dimethylformamide, dioxane, acetone, and dimethoxyethane.

Claim 18 (New): The method according to Claim 15, further comprising mixing a thickener with the dye and the solvent.

Claim 19 (New): The method according to Claim 18, wherein the thickener is at least one member selected from the group consisting of a synthetic additive, natural thickener, and inorganic thickener.

Claim 20 (New): The method according to Claim 18, wherein the thickener is at least one member selected from the group consisting of sodium alginate, propylene glycol alginate, sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, calcium carboxymethyl cellulose, sodium carboxymethyl starch, sodium starch phosphate, sodium polyacrylate, methyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, polyvinylpyrrolidone, cyamopsis gum, Carob bean gum, Tara gum, Tamarind seed gum, gum arabic, tragacanth gum, Karaya gum, alginic acid, carrageenan, xanthan gum, gellan gum, curdlan, chitin, chitosan, chitosamine, calcium carbonate, calcium silicate, silica powder, amorphous hydrous silicate, and hydrophobic silica.